

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1-22 are pending and of these, claims 17-21 have been allowed and claims 1-16 stand rejected on varying grounds under §102(b) and 103(a).

FIG. 2 has been amended to correct a spelling error in “PANEL” at 222.

No claims have been amended, added, cancelled or otherwise withdrawn from consideration.

No new matter has been added with any amendment.

In view of the comments below, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider the present application including claims 1-22 and withdraw the rejection of these claims.

a) Applicant notes with appreciation that the Examiner has considered the art listed on and returned an initialed copy of form 1449.

b) Claims 1-2, 4-6, 8, 9, 12-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) based upon a public use or sale of the invention. Oguchi (US Pat. No. 4,943,801). Applicant presumes that the Examiner believes that Oguchi anticipates these claims.

Claim 1 and 9 are in independent form with the other claims dependent on the closest lowered numbered one of claim 1 or claim 9.

Oguchi does show and discuss generating mask information, however this reference does not show or suggest, i.e., anticipate, the claimed invention as defined by either claim 1 or claim 9, i.e., all features of these claims are not shown or suggested.

Oguchi deals with a different situation or problem than the present invention. Oguchi is looking for a boundary condition, i.e., the edge of a picture to be painted on a Cathode Ray Tube. The present invention concerns various aspects of adjusting the pixel depth of image data on a display panel.

More specifically claim 1 recites among other features “a plurality of data lines that supply data to the display panel ...; and masking gates that mask selected ones of the data lines ... to adjust the pixel depth of the image data supplied to the display panel.” Although Oguchi shows masking gates 5-15 in FIG. 1 and in more detail in FIG. 4, the use of masking gates, as provided in the cited reference, is inconsistent with the masking gates as recited in claims. More specifically, the masking gates in Oguchi do not mask data lines that supply data to the display panel and do not mask data lines ... to adjust the image data supplied to the display panel as specifically claimed, for example, in claim 1. Alternatively said, the masking gates in Oguchi act on information received from the display memory control circuitry 7 and mask information generator 4 for use by the position information generator 6.

Considering claim 9, Oguchi similarly does not show or suggest masking selected data lines that transmit image data to the display panel ... for the same or similar reasons noted above with reference to claim 1.

Thus and at least for these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that Oguchi does not show or suggest all features of either claim 1 or claim 9 and thus these claims should be deemed to be allowable over this reference. At least by virtue of dependency on a claim that is believed to be allowable over Oguchi, dependent claims 2, 4-6, 8, and 12-14 should likewise be considered allowable. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1-2, 4-6, 8, 9, and 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) based on Oguchi (US Pat. No. 4,943,801).

c) Claims 7, 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oguchi in view of Park (US Pub. No. 20040263461).

Claim 7 is dependent on claim 1 and claim 15 is dependent on claim 9. As noted above Oguchi does not show or suggest all features of claim 1 or claim 9 and Park does not show or suggest the missing features. Thus claim 1 and claim 9 still appear to be allowable over this combination of references and therefore at least by virtue of dependency, claims 7 and 15 should likewise be deemed allowable over Oguchi in view of Park (US Pub. No. 20040263461). Hence, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 7 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) based on Oguchi in view of Park (US Pub. No. 20040263461).

d) Claims 3, 10, 16, 22 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten. Applicant concurs with and notes with appreciation that the Examiner believes claims 3, 10, 16, and 22 recite allowable subject matter. In view of the

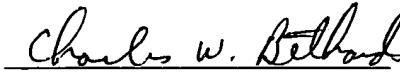
comments above, Applicant does not believe that rewriting these claims is needed in order for them to be allowable.

e) Claims 17-21 are allowed. Applicant agrees with the Examiner that these claims appear to be allowable over all cited references.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims, clearly and patentably distinguish over the cited references of record and as such are to be deemed allowable. Such allowance is hereby earnestly and respectfully solicited at an early date. If the Examiner has any suggestions or comments or questions, calls are welcomed at the phone number below.

Although it is not anticipated that any fees are due or payable since this response is being timely filed within the allowed 3 month time period, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required to Deposit Account No. **50-3435**.

Respectfully submitted,


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*Annotated sheet
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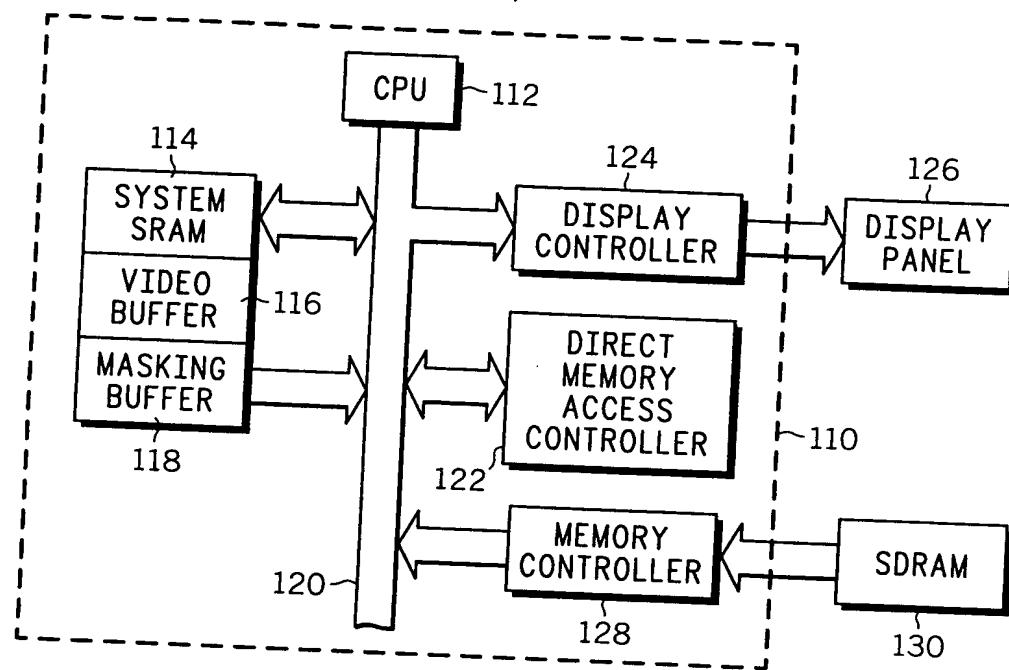


FIG. 1 108

FIG. 2

